

18th March 1922]

*Police Sub-Inspectors of the Southern Range.*

1381 Q.—Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) how many officers from the cadre of sub-inspectors of police have been promoted to be circle inspectors since 1st January 1915 in the southern range;

(2) how many of the above are Indian Christians;

(3) what is the total strength of the cadre of sub-inspectors of police in the southern range; and

(4) how many of the above are Indian Christians?

A.—(1) 26.

(2) 1.

(3) 376.

(4) 42.

II

The Council resumed consideration of the budget for 1922–23.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND II—EXCISE.

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO:—“Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding 30·38 lakhs under Demand II—Excise.

*Motion 201.*

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion:—

201. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 32,160 for two deputy commissioners.*

“Sir, this question of the desirability and the possibility of getting rid of the appointment of deputy commissioners in the Excise department was discussed at great length during the time of the budget discussion last year. The arguments for and against the reduction were both given in extenso on that occasion. It was then urged on behalf of Government that it was neither possible nor desirable to reduce the number of deputy commissioners in the Excise department. There were then four deputy commissioners. Since then, the Government have found it possible to abolish one out of these four posts, and the hon. the Finance Member has specifically referred to this abolition in his speech introducing the budget. So that, though last year it was thought by the Government that it was not possible to reduce any of these posts, the Government have found it possible to reduce the total number of these four by one this year.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—“The post that was abolished was not one of territorial commissioners. It was a specialist's post.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“My argument holds good whether it was the territorial commissioner's post or any other post.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—“May I further say that the specialist's post was not of the grade of deputy commissioner but of assistant commissioner? It still exists.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“My point is that it is desirable and possible to reduce all these four posts. The very fact that my hon. Friend has found it possible to reduce one of the posts shows that the position